CIVIC CLARITY FOUNDATION
FONDATION POUR LA CLARTÉ CIVIQUE

August 1, 2025

Right Honourable Mark Carney MP
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A2

An open letter calling on the government to restore the federal ministry of mental health.

Dear Prime Minister,

My name is Rehan Mazid, and I'm the founder of the Civic Clarity Foundation, a youth-led civic organization focused on governmental clarity and engaging young Canadians in our democracy. At 15 years old, I've organized what MPs and MPPs are calling one of the most anticipated youth panels in Waterloo Region surrounding youth mental health and the failures of the government. But I'm writing today because I shouldn't have to be doing this alone.

I'm writing today with a focused call: that the Government of Canada restore a standalone Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions. A dedicated ministry for a crisis that is continuing to ravage our country. Let's look at some statistics: According to the CHPC's report in 2024, suicide is the second leading cause of death in this country, behind unintentional injuries. According to the CMHA, youth and young adults report higher rates of depression and anxiety. Before any jurisdictional corrections occur, the federal government is still responsible for the transfer of billions of dollars through the Canada Health Transfer and can tie mental health funds to specific priorities. A dedicated ministry would also continue to set the national tone for discourse around this topic. I strongly urge the prime minister to put his focus onwards to mental health and caring for the health of Canadians, as he surely did when boosting our military defense spending to 5%.

So, I'll ask once again. Will the prime minister listen to the people of Canada, young and old, rich and poor, and restore the federal ministry of mental health and addictions?

Yours truly,
Rehan Mazid
Founder, Civic Clarity Foundation